STATE SENATOR KATHY BERNIER TWENTY-THIRD SENATE DISTRICT



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February 8, 2021 For Immediate Release Contact: (608) 266-7511 State Senator Kathy Bernier

Bernier - Marijuana Statement

(Madison)...

On January 16, 2020 Senator Kathy Bernier and then-Representative Mary Felzkowski introduced 2019 AB 750/SB 683, creating a program that allows for the possession and use of *medical* marijuana.

On February 3, 2020 Senator Kathy Bernier and Representative Shae Sortwell circulated LRB-0435/4, creating a statewide and uniform penalty of \$100 for possession of up to 10 grams of marijuana.

On February 7, 2020 it was reported that Governor Evers plans to legalize *recreational* marijuana as part of his budget proposal.

State Senator Kathy Bernier (R-Lake Hallie) issued the following statement on this latest development:

"I support the concept of the bill Senator Felzkowski and I introduced last session regarding medical marijuana. The federal government still considers marijuana a Schedule 1 drug. I believe that needs to be changed. However it is clear there is not legislative support for this change, just as there was not an appetite for the medical marijuana bill introduced last session. Rather than acknowledge that, the Governor decided to issue a half-baked scheme to legalize recreational marijuana on Super Bowl Sunday, barely a week before his budget address. I wish I could have spoken with the Governor beforehand. He has to know this plan does not yet have legislative support and he should have known better than to treat an issue that requires the utmost cooperation with such carelessness."

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